

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image playback apparatus that reproduces an image in visible form based on input image data,
 wherein the image playback apparatus has a function for changing a dynamic range of at least a part of the reproduced image according to wishes of a viewer viewing the reproduced image.
2. An image playback apparatus that reproduces an image in visible form based on input image data,
 wherein the image playback apparatus has a function for changing a tone conversion characteristic of at least a part of the reproduced image according to wishes of a viewer viewing the reproduced image.
3. An image playback apparatus, comprising:
 an image data input unit to which image data is input;
 an image output device which reproduces an image in visible form based on image data received from the image data input unit;
 an area specifying device which specifies a desired area according to wishes of a viewer from within an image reproduced by the image output device;
 a tone conversion characteristic varying device which changes a tone conversion characteristic of at least a part of the image containing the area specified by the area specifying device; and
 an image processing device which creates the image to be reproduced by the image output device according to the tone conversion characteristic set by the tone conversion characteristic varying device.
4. The image playback apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the image

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